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EXAMINER
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MANDEVILLE, JASON M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2629

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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11/10/2008

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/804,722	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CHOI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> JASON M. MANDEVILLE	<b>Art Unit</b> 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 22-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-18, 22, 23, and 36-44 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19,20 and 24-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 21 August 2008 has been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 19-20 and 24-27** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirano et al. (hereinafter "Hirano" US 7,277,075) in view of

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Takayama (US 6,317,157) in view of Miller et al. (hereinafter "Miller"

US 2004 / 0113875) and further in view of Kimura (US 6,475,845).

4. As pertaining to **Claim 19**, Hirano discloses (see Fig. 1, Fig. 3a, and Fig. 3b) a display device for processing multi-color gray-scale data (see Abstract and Col. 1, Ln. 5-16 and Ln. 24-33), comprising:

a four-color converting part (6; see Fig. 3b, in particular) to extract a white color component (i.e., Yimin) from RGB data (i.e., Ri, Gi, Bi; see Col. 3, Ln. 46-56 and Col. 4, Ln. 14-57), to generate four-color RGBW data (i.e., Ro, Go, Bo, Wo) by subtracting the white color component (Yimin) from the RGB data (Ri, Gi, Bi; see Fig. 4b; also see Col. 5, Ln. 17-51; note that the white color component in Fig. 4a is shown to be (Bi), which is subtracted from the RGB data (Ri, Gi, Bi) in Fig. 4b) and by adding white gray-scale data (i.e., Wo) to the RGB data (i.e., Ri, Gi, Bi) to generate compensated RGBW gray-scale data (i.e., Ro, Go, Bo, Wo; see Fig. 4c, for example; again, see Col. 5, Ln. 17-51 along with Col. 5, Ln. 65-67 through Col. 6, Ln. 1-7 and Col. 4, Ln. 62-67 through Col. 5, Ln. 1-3);

a data driving part (3; see Fig. 1) to process the compensated RGBW gray-scale data (i.e., Ro, Go, Bo, Wo) provided from the four-color converting part (6) to generate four-color signals in an analog type (see Col. 2, Ln. 40-67 through Col. 3, Ln. 1-32);

a scan driving part (2) to generate scan signals (i.e., gate signals) in sequence (again, see Col. 2, Ln. 40-67 through Col. 3, Ln. 1-32); and

a panel (1) to emit light with a color in response to the four-color signals (i.e., Ro, Go, Bo, Wo) from the data driving part (3) and the scan signals (i.e., gate signals) from the scan driving part (2; again, see Col. 2, Ln. 40-67 through Col. 3, Ln. 1-32), wherein

a white extracting part (see (6, 7, 8) in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3b) is configured to determine which color data (i.e., Ri, Gi, Bi) of the RGB data (i.e., Ri, Gi, Bi) has a minimum value (i.e., Yimin); see Col. 3, Ln. 46-56 and Col. 4, Ln. 14-57) and to compare (see (7, 9, 10, 11) in Fig. 3b) the minimum value (i.e., Yimin) with a predetermined value (i.e., Yimax); see Col. 6, Ln. 56-62) relative to the maximum gray scale level (i.e., Yimax) is the maximum gray scale level and, thus, is inherently relative to the maximum gray scale level; again, see Col. 6, Ln. 56-62 and note the inequality comparing Ymin to Ymax),

the white extracting part (see (6, 7, 8) in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3b) generates the minimum value (Yimin) of the RGB data (i.e., Ri, Gi, Bi) as the white color component (i.e., Wo) if the minimum value (Yimin) is smaller than the predetermined value (Yimax; i.e., when (Yimin) is smaller than (Yimax), the value of (Wo) is the minimum value (Yimin); see Fig. 4b and again, see Col. 6, Ln. 56-62 in conjunction with Col. 5, Ln. 17-51), and

the white extracting part (see (6, 7, 8) in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3b) generates the predetermined value (i.e., Yimax) as the white color component (i.e., Wo) if the minimum value (i.e., Yimin) is equal to or larger than the predetermined value (Yimax; i.e., when (Yimin) is equal to (Yimax), the value of (Wo) is equal to Yimax; see Col. 6, Ln. 61-62 in conjunction with Col. 5, Ln. 17-51).

Hirano does not explicitly disclose that the four-color converting part of the display device is implemented to perform gamma conversion with respect to primary RGB gray-scale data by multiplying each component of the RGB gray-scale data by a value of an inverse of a corresponding maximum gray-scale level, and to perform reverse gamma conversion of the RGBW data. Further, Hirano does not show that the four-color converting part performs the disclosed processes on gamma-converted data. However, gamma conversion is well known in the display art as a necessary function for adapting display data to match the gamma characteristics of a specific display.

In fact, Takayama discloses (see Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) a generic display device (i.e., see (1, 2, 3) of Fig. 2) in which an input RGB signal is adapted to comply with any number of receiving display devices (3; see Abstract and Col. 1, Ln. 29-63 and Col. 2, Ln. 41-51). Takayama discloses (see Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) that the display device (see (2) of Fig. 2) is implemented to perform gamma conversion (i.e., see (100) of Fig. 1 and see (21a-21c) of Fig. 2) with respect to primary RGB gray-scale data by multiplying each component of the RGB gray-scale data by a value of an inverse of a corresponding maximum gray-scale level (see Col. 6, Ln. 13-57 and Col. 7, Ln. 9-47), and to perform reverse gamma conversion (see (102) of Fig. 1 and see (23a-23c) of Fig. 2) of the RGB data (see Col. 7 Ln. 66-67 through Col. 8, Ln. 1-16). It is a goal of Takayama to provide a generic display device and associated image conversion method in which gamma properties are taken into consideration when performing arithmetic operations on RGB input data in order to improve display performance (again, see Abstract and Col. 1,

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Ln. 29-63 and Col. 2, Ln. 41-51). Further, Takayama discloses that any number of arithmetic operations can be performed on the gamma converted RGB input data prior to performing reverse gamma conversion of the RGB data in order to improve display performance (see Fig. 1 and Col. 4, Ln. 38-67 through Col. 5, Ln. 1-23). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made to combine the teachings of Hirano with the teachings of Takayama in order to improve display performance. As such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the arithmetic operations taught by Hirano (see Fig. 3b) can be implemented in the structure taught by Takayama (see Fig. 1). To this end, it would have been obvious that the reverse gamma conversion taught by Takayama can be performed on the RGBW data as taught by Hirano.

In addition, neither Hirano nor Takayama explicitly state that the display device is an organic electro-luminescent display (OELD) device comprising an OELD panel. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made that the display device taught by Hirano and Takayama is applicable to any display device utilizing RGB data. In fact, Miller discloses (see Fig. 2 and Fig. 4) an organic electro-luminescent display (OELD; equivalently known in the art as an organic light emitting diode (OLED) display) device (see Page 1, Para. [0001]-[0002], Page 3, Para. [0033]-[0034] and Page 4, Para. [0072]) for processing multi-color gray-scale data (see Page 1, Para. [0012] and Page 2, Para. [0026]-[0030]), comprising: a four-color converting part (see Fig. 6) to convert

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primary RGB gray-scale data (86, 88, 90) into compensated RGBW gray-scale data (97, 98, 99) by adding white gray-scale data (93, 95) to the primary RGB gray-scale data (94, 95, 96, 97; see Page 7, Para. [0109]-[0113]). Thus, the combined invention of Hirano and Takayama is in the same field of endeavor as the invention of Miller. Further, Miller provides an example usage of the structure taught by Hirano and Takayama in an OLED device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made to combine the teachings of Hirano and Takayama with the teachings of Miller. Further, it would have been obvious that the combined teachings of Hirano, Takayama, and Miller disclose an OLED panel and corresponding data and scan driving parts.

The teachings of Kimura exemplify the corresponding data and scan driving parts for the OLED panel disclosed by Miller. In fact, Kimura discloses (see Fig. 15A, for example) an organic electro-luminescent display (OLED) device for processing multi-color gray-scale data comprising a data driving part (i.e., source signal line side driving circuit) to process gray-scale data to generate color signals in an analog type (see Col. 1, Ln. 34-67 through Col. 2, Ln. 1-41 and Col. 18, Ln. 46-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-21); a scan driving part (i.e., gate signal line side driving circuit) to generate scan signals in sequence (again, see Col. 1, Ln. 34-67 through Col. 2, Ln. 1-41); and an OLED panel (see Fig. 15A) to emit light with a color in response to the color signals from the data driving part (i.e., the source signal line side driving circuit) and the scan signals from the scan driving part (i.e., the gate signal line side driving circuit; again, see Col. 1, Ln. 34-67 through Col. 2, Ln. 1-41). Both Miller and Kimura disclose an organic



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electro-luminescent display (OLED) device for processing multi-color gray-scale data.

Further, the inventions of Miller and Kimura are in the same field of endeavor. Further, Kimura provides a more detailed description of the data and scan driving parts of the OLED panel which are implicit in the invention of Miller. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made to combine the teachings of Kimura with the combined invention of Hirano, Takayama, and Miller.

5. As pertaining to **Claim 20**, the combined teachings of Hirano and Takayama discloses (see Fig. 1 and Fig. 3b of Hirano; and see Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 of Takayama) that the four-color converting part includes:

a gamma converting part (see (100) of Fig. 1 and (21a-21c) of Fig. 2 of Takayama) to perform the gamma conversion with respect to the primary RGB gray-scale data to obtain gamma-converted RGB data (see Col. 6, Ln. 13-57 and Col. 7, Ln. 9-47 of Takayama);

the white extracting part (see (6, 7, 8) in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3b of Hirano) to extract the white color component (i.e., Yimin corresponding to  $W_o$ ; see Col. 3, Ln. 46-56 and Col. 4, Ln. 14-57 of Hirano; also see Col. 5, Ln. 17-51 along with Col. 5, Ln. 65-67 through Col. 6, Ln. 1-7 and Col. 4, Ln. 62-67 through Col. 5, Ln. 1-3 of Hirano) from the gamma-converted RGB data (i.e.,  $R_i$ ,  $G_i$ ,  $B_i$  of Hirano corresponding to the gamma-converted RGB data as taught by Takayama) provided from the gamma converting part (see (100) of Fig. 1 and (21a-21c) of Fig. 2 of Takayama);

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a data determining part (i.e., see (6, 9, 10, 11) in Fig. 3b of Hirano) to receive the gamma-converted RGB data (i.e., Ri, Gi, Bi of Hirano corresponding to the gamma-converted RGB data as taught by Takayama) from the gamma converting part (see (100) of Fig. 1 and (21a-21c) of Fig. 2 of Takayama) and the white color component (i.e., Yimin corresponding to Wo; see Fig. 4b and Fig. 4c) from the white extracting part (see (6, 7, 8) in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3b of Hirano) and to generate the four-color RGBW data by subtracting the white color component (i.e., Yimin) from the gamma-converted RGB data (i.e., Ri, Gi, Bi of Hirano corresponding to the gamma-converted RGB data as taught by Takayama) and adding the white gray-scale data (i.e., Wo) to the gamma-converted RGB data (i.e., Ri, Gi, Bi of Hirano corresponding to the gamma-converted RGB data as taught by Takayama; see Col. 3, Ln. 46-56 and Col. 4, Ln. 14-57 of Hirano; also see Col. 5, Ln. 17-51 along with Col. 5, Ln. 65-67 through Col. 6, Ln. 1-7 and Col. 4, Ln. 62-67 through Col. 5, Ln. 1-3 of Hirano); and

a reverse-gamma converting part (see (102) of Fig. 1 and (23a-23c) of Fig. 2 of Takayama) to perform the reverse-gamma conversion (see Col. 7 Ln. 66-67 through Col. 8, Ln. 1-16 of Takayama) with respect to the four-color RGBW data (i.e., Ro, Go, Bo, Wo as taught by Hirano) provided from the data determining part (i.e., see (6, 9, 10, 11) in Fig. 3b of Hirano) to generate reverse-gamma converted RGBW data to be displayed (again, see Col. 7 Ln. 66-67 through Col. 8, Ln. 1-16 of Takayama).

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6. As pertaining to **Claim 24**, Kimura discloses (see Fig. 15A and Fig. 15B) that the OELD panel includes a plurality of pixels each including:

a switching element (1501) having a conduction path to transfer corresponding one of the four-color signals (as disclosed by Miller) from the data driving part (i.e., source signal line side driving circuit) in response to corresponding one of the scan signals from the scan driving part (i.e., gate signal line side driving circuit);

a driving element (1502) having a conduction path to transfer a voltage signal provided from a power supply line (1507) in response to the corresponding one of the four-color signals provided from the switching element (1501); and

a organic electro-luminescent element (1503) to generate light in response to the voltage signal provided from the driving element (1502; see Col. 1, Ln. 34-67 through Col. 2, Ln. 1-41).

7. As pertaining to **Claim 25**, Miller discloses (see Fig. 2) that the OELD panel includes a plurality of pixels (12) each including a red sub-pixel (20), a green sub-pixel (22), a blue sub-pixel (24) and a white sub-pixel (26), wherein the red (20), green (22), blue (24) and white (26) sub-pixels each have a stripe shape and are arranged in parallel to each other (see Page 2, Para. [0027]).

8. As pertaining to **Claim 26**, Miller discloses (see Fig. 8) that the OELD panel includes a plurality of pixels (132) each including a red sub-pixel (134), a green sub-pixel (136), a blue sub-pixel (138) and a white sub-pixel (140), wherein the red

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(134), green (136), blue (138) and white (140) sub-pixels are arranged in a 2x2 lattice shape (see Page 9, Para. [0124]).

9. As pertaining to **Claim 27**, Miller discloses (see Fig. 10 and Fig. 11) that the OLED panel includes a plurality of pixels (172 in Fig. 10; 202 in Fig. 11) each including red sub-pixels (174, 176 in Fig. 10; 204 in Fig. 11), green sub-pixels (178, 180 in Fig. 10; 206, 208 in Fig. 11), blue sub-pixels (182 in Fig. 10; 210 in Fig. 11) and white sub-pixels (184 through 190 in Fig. 10; 212, 214 in Fig. 11), wherein the red, green, blue and white sub-pixels are arranged in a 2x3 lattice shape (see Fig. 11 and Fig. 12; also see Page 9, Para. [0126]-[0127]). Although Miller does not explicitly disclose that the 2x3 lattice of sub-pixels includes two red sub-pixels, two green sub-pixels, a blue sub-pixel and a white sub-pixel, Miller does disclose that it is potentially more desirable to have more red and green sub-pixels than blue sub-pixels within a pixel (see Page 9, Para. [0126]). Further, Miller provides an example of a 2x3 lattice and a 3x3 lattice of sub-pixels (see Fig. 11 and Fig. 10, respectively) including more red and green sub-pixels than blue sub-pixels. As such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made that the 2x3 lattice of sub-pixels disclosed by Miller can include two red sub-pixels, two green sub-pixels, a blue sub-pixel, and a white sub-pixel.

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10. **Claims 28-35** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirano in view of Takayama in view of Miller in view of Kimura and further in view of Eida et al. (hereinafter "Eida" US 2001 / 0050532).

11. As pertaining to **Claim 28**, Kimura discloses (see Fig. 8A-8C, 9A-9C, and 10A-10B) that the OLED panel includes:

- a first insulating layer (5002) formed on a substrate (5001);

- a current control transistor (5006, i.e., EL driving TFT) formed on the first insulating layer (5002), the current control transistor (5006) providing a controlled current (see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

- a second insulating layer (5007) formed on the current control transistor (5006), the second insulating layer (5007) having contact holes in which source and drain electrodes (5024, 5025) of the current control transistor are formed (again, see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

- a third insulating layer (5075, 5076) formed on the second insulating layer (5007) and the source and drain electrodes (5024, 5025) of the current control transistor;

- a pixel electrode (5082) formed on the third insulating layer (5075, 5076), a part of the pixel electrode (5082) being extended to be in contact with the drain electrode (5024) of the current control transistor through a contact hole formed in the third insulating layer (5075, 5076; see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9;

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also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

an organic electro-luminescent layer (5086);

and an electrode layer (5087) formed on the organic electro-luminescent layer (5086) to serve as a cathode (5087) of the OLED device (again, see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47).

None of Kimura, Hirano, Takayama, or Miller explicitly discloses partition walls formed on the third insulating layer and the pixel electrode, adjacent ones of the partition walls defining a luminescent region of the OLED panel; and an organic electro-luminescent layer formed on partition walls and the pixel electrode, for emitting red, green, blue and white color light.

However, Eida discloses an organic electro-luminescent device for processing multi-color gray-scale data (see Page 1 through Page 2, Para. [0016]-[0019]) comprising (see Fig. 2, Fig. 3, Fig. 4, and Fig. 7) partition walls (i.e., separating walls) formed on a third insulating layer (3) and the pixel electrode (2), adjacent ones of the partition walls (3) defining a luminescent region of the OLED panel (see Page 3, Para. [0067] and [0072]; Page 4, Para. [0090]-[0091]; Page 6, Para. [0129]-[0135]; and Page 7, Para. [0149]-[0160]); and an organic electro-luminescent layer (4) formed on partition walls (3) and the pixel electrode (2), for emitting red, green, blue and white color light (see Page 8, Para. [0172]-[0176]; Page 9, Para. [0197]-[0206]; and Page 10

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through Page 11, Para. [0234]-[0244]). Miller, Kimura, and Eida all disclose an organic electro-luminescent device for processing multi-color gray-scale data. Further, Kimura and Eida both disclose a structure for the electro-luminescent device comprising insulating layers and an organic electro-luminescent layer. While the structures of Kimura and Eida are different, both inventions disclose a means for providing multi-color gray-scale processing and both inventions are in the same field of endeavor. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made to combine the teachings of Eida with the combined invention of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, and Kimura. As such, the combined teachings of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, Kimura, and Eida disclose the claimed structure in which the organic electro-luminescent layer emits red, green, blue, and white color light.

12. As pertaining to **Claim 29**, Eida discloses that the adjacent partition walls (3) are formed to define corresponding one of red, green, and blue pixel regions (see Page 8, Para. [0172]-[0176]; Page 9, Para. [0197]-[0206]; and Page 10 through Page 11, Para. [0234]-[0244]). While Eida does not explicitly disclose a defined white pixel region, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the combined teachings of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, Kimura, and Eida must incorporate the white pixel region in the structure.

13. As pertaining to **Claim 30**, Eida discloses that the organic electro-luminescent layer (4) includes red, green, and blue electro-luminescent layers formed on the red,

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green, and blue pixel regions, respectively, defined by the partition walls (3; again, see Page 8, Para. [0172]-[0176]; Page 9, Para. [0197]-[0206]; and Page 10 through Page 11, Para. [0234]-[0244]). Also, while Eida does not explicitly disclose a defined white electro-luminescent layer formed on a white pixel region, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the combined teachings of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, Kimura, and Eida must incorporate the electro-luminescent layer formed on the white pixel region in the structure.

14. As pertaining to **Claim 31**, Eida discloses that the electrode layer is a metal layer so that light is reflected by the metal layer and emitted through the substrate (see Page 6 through Page 7, Para. 0129]-[0141]).

15. As pertaining to **Claim 32**, Eida discloses that the electrode layer is transparent so that light passes through the electrode layer (see Page 6 through Page 7, Para. 0129]-[0141]).

16. As pertaining to **Claim 33**, Kimura discloses (see Fig. 8A-8C, 9A-9C, and 10A-10B) that the OLED panel includes:

- a first insulating layer (5002) formed on a substrate (5001);
- a current control transistor (5006, i.e., EL driving TFT) formed on the first insulating layer (5002), the current control transistor (5006) providing a controlled



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current (see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

a second insulating layer (5007) formed on the current control transistor (5006), the second insulating layer (5007) having contact holes in which source and drain electrodes (5024, 5025) of the current control transistor are formed (again, see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

a pixel electrode (5082), a part of the pixel electrode (5082) being extended to be in contact with the drain electrode (5024) of the current control transistor through a contact hole (5075, 5076; see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

an organic electro-luminescent layer (5086).

None of Kimura, Hirano, Takayama, or Miller explicitly discloses a color pixel layer formed on the second insulating layer and the source and drain electrodes, the color pixel layer including red, green, blue and white color filters; a planarizing layer formed on the color pixel layer; a pixel electrode formed on the planarizing layer, a part of the pixel electrode being extended to be in contact with the drain electrode of the current control transistor through contact holes formed in the planarizing layer and the color pixel layer; partition walls formed on the planarizing layer and the pixel electrode, adjacent ones of the partition walls defining a luminescent region of the OLED panel; an

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organic electro-luminescent layer formed on partition walls and the pixel electrode; and a metal electrode layer formed on the organic electro-luminescent layer to serve as a cathode of the OLED device.

However, Eida discloses an organic electro-luminescent device for processing multi-color gray-scale data (see Page 1 through Page 2, Para. [0016]-[0019]) comprising (see Fig. 2, Fig. 3, Fig. 4, and Fig. 7) a color pixel layer (4) formed on a second insulating layer (3) and the source and drain electrodes (52, 60), the color pixel layer (4) including red, green, and blue color filters (11; see Page 3, Para. [0067] and [0072]; Page 4, Para. [0090]-[0091]; Page 6, Para. [0129]-[0135]; and Page 7, Para. [0149]-[0160]; in addition, see Page 8, Para. [0172]-[0176]; Page 9, Para. [0197]-[0206]; and Page 10 through Page 11, Para. [0234]-[0244]); a planarizing layer (10) formed on the color pixel layer (4); a pixel electrode (2) formed on the planarizing layer (10), a part of the pixel electrode (2) being extended to be in contact with the drain electrode (60) of the current control transistor (50) through contact holes (60) formed in the planarizing layer (10) and the color pixel layer (4); partition walls (3) formed on the planarizing layer (10) and the pixel electrode (2), adjacent ones of the partition walls (3) defining a luminescent region of the OLED panel (again, see Page 3, Para. [0067] and [0072]; Page 4, Para. [0090]-[0091]; Page 6, Para. [0129]-[0135]; and Page 7, Para. [0149]-[0160]; in addition, see Page 8, Para. [0172]-[0176]; Page 9, Para. [0197]-[0206]; and Page 10 through Page 11, Para. [0234]-[0244]); an organic electro-luminescent layer (4) formed on partition walls (3) and the pixel electrode (2); and a metal electrode layer (see (2)) formed on the organic electro-luminescent layer (4) to

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serve as a cathode of the OLED device (see Page 6 through Page 7, Para. 0129]-[0141]). Miller, Kimura, and Eida disclose an organic electro-luminescent device for processing multi-color gray-scale data. Kimura and Eida both disclose a structure for the electro-luminescent device comprising insulating layers and an organic electro-luminescent layer. While the structures of Kimura and Eida are different, both inventions disclose a means for providing multi-color gray-scale processing and both inventions are in the same field of endeavor. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made to combine the teachings of Eida with the combined invention of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, and Kimura. As such, the combined teachings of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, Kimura, and Eida disclose the claimed structure in which the color pixel layer includes red, green, blue, and white color filters.

17. As pertaining to **Claim 34**, Eida discloses (see Fig. 3 and Fig. 4) that the red, green, blue, and white (as disclosed by the combined inventions of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, Kimura, and Eida) color filters (11) of the color pixel layer (4) are each formed between the current control transistor (50) and the pixel electrode (2) in a corresponding one of the red, green, blue and white pixel regions (again, see Page 3, Para. [0067] and [0072]; Page 4, Para. [0090]-[0091]; Page 6, Para. [0129]-[0135]; and Page 7, Para. [0149]-[0160]; in addition, see Page 8, Para. [0172]-[0176]; Page 9, Para. [0197]-[0206]; and Page 10 through Page 11, Para. [0234]-[0244]).

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18. As pertaining to **Claim 35**, Kimura discloses (see Fig. 8A-8C, 9A-9C, and 10A-10B) that the OLED panel includes:

- a first insulating layer (5002) formed on a substrate (5001);

- a current control transistor (5006, i.e., EL driving TFT) formed on the first insulating layer (5002), the current control transistor (5006) providing a controlled current (see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

- a second insulating layer (5007) formed on the current control transistor (5006), the second insulating layer (5007) having contact holes in which source and drain electrodes (5024, 5025) of the current control transistor are formed (again, see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

- a third insulating layer (5075, 5076) formed on the second insulating layer (5007) and the source and drain electrodes (5024, 5025) of the current control transistor;

- a pixel electrode (5082) formed on the third insulating layer (5075, 5076), a part of the pixel electrode (5082) being extended to be in contact with the drain electrode (5024) of the current control transistor through a contact hole formed in the third insulating layer (5075, 5076; see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47);

- an organic electro-luminescent layer (5086);

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and a transparent electrode layer (5087) formed on the organic electro-luminescent layer (5086) to serve as a cathode (5087) of the OLED device (again, see Col. 13, Ln. 4-19 and 50-67 through Col. 14, Ln. 1-9; also see Col. 17, Ln. 41-67 through Col. 18, Ln. 1-55; and Col. 18, Ln. 56-67 through Col. 19, Ln. 1-47).

None of Kimura, Hirano, Takayama, or Miller explicitly disclose partition walls formed on the third insulating layer and the pixel electrode, adjacent ones of the partition walls defining a luminescent region of the OLED panel; an organic electro-luminescent layer formed on partition walls and the pixel electrode; and a color pixel layer formed on the transparent electrode layer, the color pixel layer including red, green, blue and white color filters, for emitting red, green, blue and white color light.

However, Eida discloses an organic electro-luminescent device for processing multi-color gray-scale data (see Page 1 through Page 2, Para. [0016]-[0019]) comprising (see Fig. 2, Fig. 3, Fig. 4, and Fig. 7) partition walls (i.e., separating walls) formed on a third insulating layer (3) and the pixel electrode (2), adjacent ones of the partition walls (3) defining a luminescent region of the OLED panel (see Page 3, Para. [0067] and [0072]; Page 4, Para. [0090]-[0091]; Page 6, Para. [0129]-[0135]; and Page 7, Para. [0149]-[0160]); an organic electro-luminescent layer (4) formed on partition walls (3) and the pixel electrode (2; see Page 8, Para. [0172]-[0176]; Page 9, Para. [0197]-[0206]; and Page 10 through Page 11, Para. [0234]-[0244]); a transparent electrode layer (see Page 6 through Page 7, Para. 0129)-[0141]) formed on the organic

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electro-luminescent layer to serve as a cathode of the OLED device; and a color pixel layer (4) formed on the transparent electrode layer, the color pixel layer (4) including red, green, and blue color filters (11; see Page 3, Para. [0067] and [0072]; Page 4, Para. [0090]-[0091]; Page 6, Para. [0129]-[0135]; and Page 7, Para. [0149]-[0160]; in addition, see Page 8, Para. [0172]-[0176]; Page 9, Para. [0197]-[0206]; and Page 10 through Page 11, Para. [0234]-[0244]). Miller, Kimura, and Eida disclose an organic electro-luminescent device for processing multi-color gray-scale data. Kimura and Eida both disclose a structure for the electro-luminescent device comprising insulating layers and an organic electro-luminescent layer. While the structures of Kimura and Eida are different, both inventions disclose a means for providing multi-color gray-scale processing and both inventions are in the same field of endeavor. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made to combine the teachings of Eida with the combined invention of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, and Kimura. As such, the combined teachings of Hirano, Takayama, Miller, Kimura, and Eida disclose the claimed structure in which the color pixel layer includes red, green, blue, and white color filters.

### ***Response to Arguments***

19. Applicant's arguments filed 21 August 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. **Claims 19, 20, and 24-35** are pending in the application, of which

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**Claim 19 and 20** have been amended and **Claims 24-35** are original. The applicant has argued that none of the references relied upon in the prior office action, namely Hirano (US 7.277.075), Takayama (US 6,317,157), Miller (US 2004 / 0113875), Kimura (US 6,475,845), or Eida (US 2001 / 0050532), teach or fairly suggest the limitations of amended **Claim 19**. In particular, the applicant has argued that none of the references relied upon teach that "the white extracting part compares the minimum value with a predetermined value relative to the maximum gray scale level..." (see Remarks). The examiner respectfully disagrees. In fact, Hirano discloses exactly this feature in determining the white color component of the display data (see Fig. 4b and see Col. 6, Ln. 56-62). That is, Hirano discloses that the minimum value (i.e.,  $Y_{min}$ ) is compared with a predetermined value (i.e.,  $Y_{max}$ ) wherein ( $Y_{max}$ ) is the maximum gray scale level and, thus, is inherently related to the maximum gray scale level.

Therefore, the rejection of **Claims 19-20 and 24-35** is maintained.

### ***Conclusion***

20. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hirano et al. (US 6,954,191) discloses a display device for processing multi-color data.

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Lee et al. (US 2003 / 0151694) discloses a method and apparatus for changing the brightness of an image using the minimum RGB color component.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JASON M. MANDEVILLE whose telephone number is 571-270-3136. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe can be reached on 571-272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jason Mandeville  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2629

/J. M. M./



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Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Richard Hjerpe/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629